

<b>Title:</b> The Local Government (Disqualification) Bill <b>IA No:</b> <b>RPC Reference No:</b> <b>Lead department or agency:</b> DLUHC <b>Other departments or agencies:</b>	<b>Impact Assessment (IA)</b>			
	<b>Date:</b> 24/09/2021			
	<b>Stage:</b> Development/Options			
	<b>Source of intervention:</b> Domestic			
	<b>Type of measure:</b> Primary legislation			
<b>Contact for enquiries:</b> Megan McKibbin 07824 445227				

**Summary: Intervention and Options** **RPC Opinion:** RPC Opinion Status

Cost of Preferred (or more likely) Option (in 2019 prices)			
Total Net Present Social Value	Business Net Present Value	Net cost to business per year	Business Impact Target Status Nil
£m Nil	£m Nil	£m Nil	

**What is the problem under consideration? Why is government action or intervention necessary?**

- Existing legislation prevents individuals standing or holding such office if they have, within five years of the day of the election, or since their election, been convicted in the UK, Channel Islands or Isle of Man of any offence and have received a sentence of imprisonment, suspended or not, for a period of not less than three months without the option of a fine.
- The existing criteria were set in the 1970s. Since then, new sentencing options have been created whose use either replaces or reduces the need for a custodial sentence. This means that some individuals who are convicted, and who we would want to be disqualified, do not meet the current threshold for disqualification.

**What are the policy objectives of the action or intervention and the intended effects?**

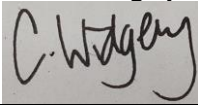
- The Bill updates the disqualification criteria to bring them into line with the values and behaviours expected of elected members by the electorate.
- It will disqualify individuals who are subject to any relevant notification requirements, or relevant orders due to sexual offences from standing for election as or being a member of a local authority.
- The Government is of the view that there is public interest for Councillors and Mayors to be demonstrably of good character, and to be capable of being trusted by the electorate to make important decisions for the communities they represent, and crucially on behalf of vulnerable groups, including children and young people.

**What policy options have been considered, including any alternatives to regulation? Please justify preferred option (further details in Evidence Base)**

- Expanding the disqualification criteria to disqualify individuals who are subject to any relevant notification requirements, or relevant orders due to sexual offences requires primary legislation.
- The Government made a commitment to legislate on this matter in response to a consultation <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/disqualification-criteria-for-councillors-and-mayors>.

<b>Will the policy be reviewed?</b> It will not be reviewed. <b>If applicable, set review date:</b> Month/Year						
Is this measure likely to impact on international trade and investment?			No			
Are any of these organisations in scope?			Micro No	Small No	Medium No	Large No
What is the CO <sub>2</sub> equivalent change in greenhouse gas emissions? (Million tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> equivalent) N/A			Traded:		Non-traded:	

*I have read the Impact Assessment and I am satisfied that, given the available evidence, it represents a reasonable view of the likely costs, benefits and impact of the leading options.*

Signed by the responsible SELECT SIGNATORY:  Date: 13/10/21

